

# U.S. Census Bureau News

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U.S. Department of Commerce • Washington, DC 20230

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**10:00 A.M. EDT MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2016**

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**CB16-67, FT-900A (16-03)**

## **Preliminary: U.S. Imports for Consumption of Steel Products March 2016**

The U.S. Census Bureau announced today that preliminary March steel imports were \$1.7 billion (2.3 million metric tons) compared to the preliminary February totals of \$1.6 billion (2.0 million metric tons).

The March change in steel imports based on metric tonnage reflected increases primarily in blooms, billets, and slabs. Decreases occurred primarily in oil country goods, hot rolled sheets, and plates in coils. Increases occurred primarily with Brazil. Decreases occurred primarily with Korea, Australia, and South Africa.

The year to date final statistics through February 2016 showed steel imports of 4.5 million metric tons compared with 7.4 million metric tons through February 2015. The largest commodity decreases occurred primarily in blooms, billets, and slabs. Increases occurred primarily in reinforcing bars, wire drawn, and tin plate. The largest country decreases occurred primarily with Korea. Increases occurred primarily with Australia, South Africa, and Canada.

### **Notes:**

**The data in this report are preliminary and subject to revisions.**

*Analysis of recent months for steel product imports indicates the value of preliminary data should equal about 96 percent of the final value reported in the regular monthly trade statistics report. Preliminary data reported for individual steel categories and at the individual country of origin level have been less consistently predictive of the final data reported in the regular monthly trade statistics. For further details, visit our web site at [www.census.gov/trade](http://www.census.gov/trade). On the website, you can access product by country and country by product tables.*

*The next release is May 24, 2016.*